

September 9, 2005

Mr. Stephen J. Wright  
Administrator & Chief Executive Officer  
Bonneville Power Administration  
Attn: Communications - DM-7  
P.O. Box 14428  
Portland, OR 97293-4428

DELIVERY VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL - [www.bpa.gov/comment](http://www.bpa.gov/comment)

RE: Open Comment Period - Decision Point 2

Dear Steve,

We are writing to encourage your support of the Transmission Improvements Group's (TIG) proposal in your upcoming decision on transmission alternatives to serve the region. We agree that the "one utility" concept's time has come (or perhaps returned) for transmission planning, expansion and operation in the region. As the transmission leader in the region, we are asking you to implement the "one utility" concept in the most cost-effective, flexible and accountable manner available.

We believe that the TIG proposal before you utilizes existing institutions, is flexible, adaptable, less costly, and puts into position a forum that remains accountable to the stakeholders and decision makers in the region. It enhances the region's ability to implement new mandatory reliability provisions under development, monitor markets effectively, and plan for and expand the region's transmission system in a fair, cost-effective manner. TIG's adaptability is its strength in light of recent changes in the electric industry.

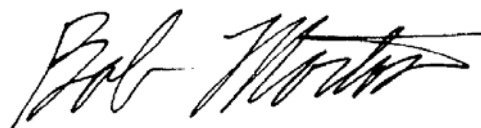
In light of those recent, substantial changes in the national energy picture – including the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) reopening their docket on Order 888 and 889 for regions that have not yet formed a Regional Transmission Organization (RTO), FERC's termination of its Standard Market Design (SMD) proposal, and the new federal Energy Policy Act's mandatory reliability provision – it doesn't seem necessary at this time to adopt an alternative that would create a costly new institution and may be very difficult to "recall" once that path is chosen.

Again, we urge your support for the TIG proposal and pledge to remind the region's utilities to come together to enhance reliability and expand the region's high-voltage transmission system.

Sincerely,



Senator Erik Poulsen  
Chair  
Washington State Senate  
Water, Energy and Environment Committee



Senator Bob Morton  
Ranking Member  
Washington State Senate  
Water, Energy and Environment Committee